



Passport in Time



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Archaeology of the Historic Tehama Roads and Trails 2015

Redding Field Office (BLM), California, 2015

from Bureau of Land Management California, News Bytes

<http://blmca.sites.usda.gov/2015/07/08/passport-in-time/#more-19232> (Original Article)

On this Passport In Time project, volunteers and BLM staff explore the Lost Emigrant Trail. Despite high summer temperatures and a hidden rattlesnake, the Bureau of Land Management Redding Field Office and 30 volunteers completed archaeological investigations of a lost emigrant trail.



(Photo: Under the direction of BLM Archaeologist Dr. Eric Ritter, segments of the trail where visible and locations where the trail might have existed were established. *Photo courtesy of BLM*)

The reported route appears to be an off-shoot of the more famous [Lassen Trail](#) which brought emigrants westward into the

Sacramento Valley. Using metal detectors, old aerial photographs, Google Earth images and on-the-ground observations, it has been possible to establish portions of this route as it crossed BLM managed lands in Tehama County.



(Photo: The volunteers not only helped BLM in their investigations but also experienced an archaeological adventure in learning of local cultural resources. *Photo courtesy of BLM*)

Under the direction of BLM Archaeologist Dr. Eric Ritter, common artifacts like wagon parts and horseshoes were found, but there was also a liquor bottle, lard can, cast iron stove parts, bullets, buttons, and harness buckles. This information will be used for management purposes and to better understand the westward migration experience. ([BLM Facebook](#))

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